VOLUME III.—NO XXXII.

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MAY 28, 1892.

GRAPHIC PRINT, NEWTON, MASS.

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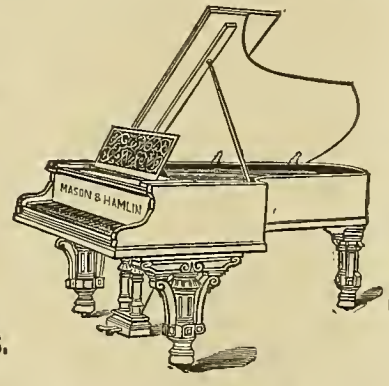

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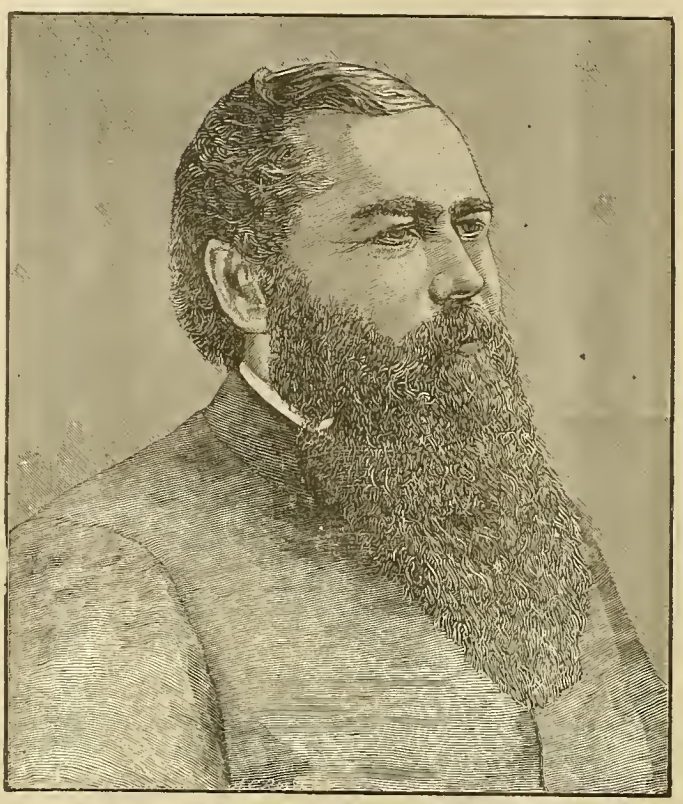

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THE WELLESLEY PRELUDE.

VOL. III. NEWTON, MASS., MAY 28, 1892. No. 32

The Wellesley Prelude.

Edited by the Students of Wellesley College and published weekly during the college year. Price $2.00 a year. Weekly copies 5 cents. Monthly copies 15 cents.

EDITORS:

BLANCHE B. BAKER, '92.

JANET E. DAVIDSON, '92. AGNES S. HOLBROOK, '92.
HELEN G. EAGER, '93 CAROLINE N. NEWMAN, '93.
HELEN R. STAHR, '94. FRANCES LUCAS, '94.
ETHEL STANWOOD, '94. ANNIE SYBIL MONTAGUE, '79.

MISS CAROLINE MUDGETT, SP.

All literary communications from the students of the college should be sent to the LITERARY EDITOR OF THE PRELUDE, through the PRELUDE box in the general office. Literary communications from outside the College should be directed to the Alumnæ Editor, Miss Annie Sybil Montague, Wellesley College Wellesley, Mass.

Subscriptions and all business communications should be sent *in all cases*, to Helen Eager, Wellesley College, Wellesley Mass.

Advertisements should be addressed to Mr. Fred W. Walker 74 Tremont street, Room 21, Boston, Mass.

Entered as Second Class Matter at Post Office, Newton, Mass

EDITORIALS.

Those who have in charge plans for this year's Float day have taken measures to secure the College from the annoyance which it has experienced in past years from the great crowds who were present. Since there were no measures taken last year to restrict the attendance upon the exercises to invited guests only, strangers from Natick, Framingham and even Boston, took advantage of this fact, and presented themselves at the festivities. In many cases these uninvited guests were of undesirable character, and the annoyance which they occasioned was very great. The banks of the lake were so crowded, owing to the presence of this unexpected element, that it was impossible for more than half the audience to see the crews with any ease. It is hoped that the measures taken this year will do away with this difficulty, and preserve the character of our Float day as unblemished as we could desire. Tickets will be sold this year for the exercises at a mere nominal price, and none except those possessing these tickets shall be allowed to present themselves at the scene. A police force from Boston will patrol the grounds and guard the entrances, so that only invited guests may enter. Measures will also be taken to keep strange boats away from the scene of action upon the lake. It was at first proposed to limit the number of tickets so that each student could purchase but two for her friends. This plan, however, met with but little favor among the students, who felt that this should be the one day during the year when they might invite as many friends as they desire to the College. As there will be of necessity some students who do not desire any tickets, it seems probable that the number of guests will be no greater than if the tickets were limited. The main difficulty of the day arose from the presence of the uninvited element. The measures taken this year to keep this away will doubtless prove effectual, and thus our enjoyment of Float day be unimpaired.

Several changes in the required academic work of the College will go into effect next year, which will give the students freer scope in their choice of electives. The changes effect chiefly the sophomore and junior classes. Scientific sophomores will no longer be required to take a second year in mathematics. Instead they may elect an additional year of

science. In this case the biological science must be studied during the sophomore year. As during this present year, elocution will be required once a week. The scientific seniors and juniors may substitute an additional year of science for the last year of modern language. The most significant change concerns the course of the junior year, and promises to lighten the work very materially. The student will be permitted to choose two courses from the three hitherto required, physics, history, and philosophy. In place of the third course an additional elective may be chosen—scientific juniors, however, are required to choose physics as one of the courses. The course in philosophy corresponding to that open this year to juniors is somewhat changed. It consists of one semester's work in psychology and one in moral philosophy. This will be course 1, and will be open to juniors as before. Logic is no longer to be required. It is offered as an elective, however, and is open to the sophomore class. New courses of work are offered in the different departments and the student will find that she has a wider field from which to choose her year's work than ever before. The opportunities for specialization were never greater.

The plan of the assignment of rooms employed last year was put into practice this year with the same general satisfaction. After one year of trial it has been proved both practical and successful in doing away with much unnecessary friction and trouble. The system of drawing by lots is a perfectly fair one, and since all students draw upon the same basis there can be no just ground for fault finding if the result of one's choice is not perfectly satisfactory. One of the tendencies which has been apparent this year in a more marked degree than ever before, is the increasing disfavor felt towards College Hall on the part of the students. The proportion of upper class girls who apply for rooms there is very small. This is in many respects unfortunate, but it is perhaps inevitable. The chief objection seems to be in regard to the confusion and noise which pervades the building, especially in the large dining room. The bustle in the dining room is a great source of annoyance, especially when one is tired from over work and anxious for rest and quiet. If it could be divided into a number of smaller rooms, this confusion would be done away, and the chief source of objection to College Hall removed. This is a change which to many seems very necessary, and it is hoped that it will be made before many years.

SPRUCE SWAMP SCHOOL-HOUSE.

I have been walking for almost two hours, trudging along a smooth country road, and am getting rather tired. In fact I am getting so tired that I begin to cast longing glances at the stonewall bordering the roadside, and finally, yielding to the temptation, I clamber up its rough side,and ensconce myself comfortably on top.

I lean my head back against the trunk of a convenient maple tree,and for a while see nothing but the golden glamour of the sun, and the shadow of the leaves upon my dress. Then, gradually, the nodding daisy-heads beneath me draw my eyes, and the long stretch of field sweet with the scent of clover and penny-royal.

Away over there in the sunshine, black-eyed susans wave me a welcome. Here within reach of my hand, tall grasses bend their tasseled crests. Far up the road, parallel with it, as if the two were running a race, winds the stone wall. It is, by no means, a geometrical, citified, stone walk. It juts out here, and twists in there, and belongs, stick and stone, to the country, from the country soil which clings to its feet, to the irregular country rocks that form its moss-grown crown. It is bordered on either ride with blackberry vines,

twining and running about it, until the wall itself becomes a thing of beauty.

Directly across the road, stands a little old fashioned school-house. Originally, if one could judge from the traces of color which still remain under the over-hanging eaves, and about the defaced window-sills, it must have been painted red. But, even now, the little school-house can shine bravely in freshly painted green blinds, and does honor to its race by the glitter of unbroken window panes.

I see the queer old-fashioned doors, one for the boys, one for the girls,—Puritan style. I see the crumbling doorstep on one side, and the crumbled remnant of its comrade on the other. I see the elm tree rising broad and high, behind it all.

I see the bits of broken slate in the sandy path. I see the scattered daisy petals that some childish hand has left upon the grass, saying mutely as they lie and wither, "Rich-man-poor-man-beggar-man-" you all remember the rest.

I see the print of little bare feet on the dusty road.

I see it all with half shut eyes, and then—wide open springs the creaky door, out rush the noisy children, swinging their dinner-pails and upsetting each other in their haste, and in a moment, deserted stands the little red school-house. The key is in the master's pocket, the pupils have gone to their homes, and I—I give a little slide off the stone wall, and go too.

L. B. Q.

COLLEGE NOTES.

WEEKLY BULLETIN.

Friday, June 3rd, Tree Day.

Sunday, June 5th, at 4 p. m. Dr. A. McKenzie. Communion Service.

Monday evening, June 6th. Lecture by Dr. Mabie.

EXAMINATIONS, JUNE 1892.

Monday, June 6, Botany Field-Day.

Tuesday, June 7,

		Course	Room
9.00 A. M.	German	IV & V	C. L. R.
	"	III	C. & D.
	"	II & double course	5th Floor Centre
		I	P. L. R.
2.00 P. M.	History	II	A. L. R.

Wednesday, June 8.

9.00 A. M.	Freshman English		Chapel
2.00 P. M.	Chemistry	IV & II	C. L. R.
	"	I Divisions A & L,	P.L.R.
	"	G & K,	B. L. R.
	"	B, C, & H,	A.L.R.

Thursday, June 9.

9.00 A. M.	Physics		P. L. R.
2.00 P. M.	Eng. Lit.	IV	I.

Friday, June 10.

9.00 A. M.	Bible	IV Miss Whiting's Division	P. L. R.
		II A B	B. L. R.
		II C D	5th Fl. centre.
		II E F	A. L. R.
		I	Chapel
2.00 P. M.	Greek	IV	C. L. R. & M.
		III	C. & D.
		II A	C. & D.
		II B & C,	C. L. R. & M.
		I	A. L. R.
	Italian	I & II	E

Saturday, June 11.

9.00 A. M.	Botany	V	B. Lab.
	"	IV	B. L.
	"	III	B. L. R.
2.00 P. M.	Latin	II	P. L. R.
	"	I Cl.	A. L. R.
	"	I Sc.	Chapel.

Tuesday, June 14.

9.00 A. M.	Phys. Astronomy		P. L. R.
	Elocution	III & IV	Elocution Hall
	Mathematics	III, IV, V,	G.
	"	II	A. L. R.
	"	I A, E, G, H,	P. L. R.
		B, C, L,	C. L. R.
		D. K.	B. L. R.

Wednesday, June 15.

9.00 A. M. Eng. Lit. II	Chapel
2.00 P. M. French IV & V	C. L. R.
" I, II, III,	P. L. R.

Thursday. June 16.

9.00 A. M. Eng. Literature VI	Chapel.

Miss Emma West, formerly of '93, visited friends at the College last week.

Mr. C. G. Moor of Providence, R. I., preached in the chapel last Sunday morning. He took his text from Hebrews vii, 25.

The Specials have elected Miss Shuttleworth as their president for next year, and Miss Phebe Campbell as vice-president.

Miss Sue Cushman, '91, is to stay at Freeman for the rest of the term.

After much discussion and deliberation the Sophomores have decided to name their boat the "Waban Annung" an Indian name, found in "Hiwatha," and meaning the "Star of the East," or "Light of the East."

Miss Fannie Boltwood, formerly of '93, has been visiting friends at the College.

The Specials have named their new boat the "Tupelo."

Several of the girls went to Cambridge to the Harvard Glee Club Concert on the nineteenth, and had a delightful time. Their ardor was rather quenched by their having to walk from Cambridge to Allston in the pouring rain, most of them without umbrellas.

The Tree Day exercises will take place as follows: At two o'clock the Senior exercises in front of College Hall; at four o'clock the Freshman exercises about the Freshman tree; at six o'clock the Seniors go to Normbega for an informal tea, the Juniors to the Main Building, the Sophomores to Freeman, the Freshmen to Stone Hall, the Specials to Wood, and the Alumnæ to Simpson. At seven o'clock the usual Tree Day reception will be held in College Hall, and special arrangements have been made for singing Wellesley songs.

On Wednesday evening, May 18th, Dr. S. W. Dyke gave the third in his series of lectures on Sociology. After reviewing the classification of the institutions of the modern village, as given in the lecture of last week, he went on to show the distinctive features of modern village life. First he said that the village is closely related to other villages and to the whole of society; that it consists of distinctly marked classes and forms of institutions. It is made up of isolated houses and farms, and the individual is conspicuous. Then followed an interesting description of the ancient village and its various modifications, as found in the patriarchal family, the house community of the Hindoos, and the village community proper. He concluded by stating the comparison between the ancient and modern village. The ancient villages were isolated or only feebly connected; their classes and farms were largely merged into an undifferentiated whole, and the individual was subservient to the community. The subject of next week's lecture, the last in the course, will be "The Problems of the Family."

On Saturday evening May 21st, the Shakespeare Society held its annual spring meeting in the Gymnasium. The play given was Twelfth Night, and the cast was as follows:

Orsino, Duke of Illyria,	Miss Alice W. Dransfield
Sebastian, A young gentlemen,	Miss Nancy Fuller
Antonio, A Sea Captain, friend to Sebastian,	Miss Margaret Hardon
A Sea Captain, Friend to Viola,	Miss Louise J. Pope
Valentine, Curio, } Gentlemen attending on the Duke,	Miss Phebe A. Campbell Miss Alice G. Pierce
Sir Toby Belch, Uncle of Olivia,	Miss Francis H. Lucas
Sir Andrew Aguecheek,	Miss Julia F. Reid
Malvolio,	Miss Cornelia E. Green
Fabian, A Clown, } Servants to Olivia,	Miss S. Katharine Conner Miss Caroline N. Newman
Olivia, A Countess,	Miss L. Elizabeth White
Viola, Sister to Sebastian,	Miss Candace C. Stimson
Maria, Olivia's woman,	Miss Edith R. Crapo

Lords, a Priest, Sailors, Musicians and other attendants.

Scene.—A City in Illyria, and the Seacoast near it.

As a whole the cast was remarkably even, and there was much originality displayed in the conception of some of the characters. Sir Andrew Aguecheek was especially good. The character was carefully and quietly rendered; never obtrusive, and consistent throughout. Malvolio was a triumph: every motion, every tone, was studied, affected, and effective. Master clown was a most natural, mischevous, and happy-go-lucky individual, and his pretty attitudes and gay costumes added much to the artistic effect of the play. Viola and the Lady Olivia moved through the comedy with their own peculiar grace and dignity; and their scenes together were of the daintiest. Sir Toby, as we all know, labors under more than one disadvantage at Wellesley. The youth and refinement of the Wellesley student were not included in his composition when Shakespeare created him, and the Wellesley student finds him difficult of adaptation; but the Sir Toby of Saturday night, though not as course and old as he might have been, nevertheless by his hearty laugh and his appreciation of his assumed character, sustained his part well. The best scenes were, the duel-scene between Viola and Sir Andrew; the garden-scene where Malvolio finds the letter; the love-scene between the Duke and Viola; and the Sir Topas scene. The costumes were artistic and showed careful attention to detail, the most striking were those of Viola, Malvolio, and the clown. The grouping was exceedingly good; much better than in most amateur performances. In spite of much to be desired in the way of scenery, the play was carried through successfully by the actors with that enthusiasm and enjoyment which proves so contagious to the audience, and which the Wellesley student knows so well how to inspire.

The third Bird Talk of the term was given by Prof. Wilcox, Wednesday afternoon, May 18. First were introduced the more isolated birds, the king-fisher, whose slate colored feathers, enormous head and huge bill are not easily mistaken; the oriole, whose rich orange breast readily distinguishes him; and the bobolink with his white and yellow back. The sweet singers, who have recently come among us, were then taken up, the beautiful scarlet tanager; the brown thrush, sometimes called thrasher, whose loud long song seemed well-nigh tireless; the veery, or tawny-backed thrush; and the slate colored catbird, whose mimicry of the mocking bird is so well known. The flycatchers are still represented by the broad billed, gray breasted king bird, able to drive even crows before him. The red-eyed vireo, and the warbling vireo, both olive-green and white, sing through the hottest part of the day, when other birds are silent. The finches that have recently arrived, are the rose-breasted grosbeak, the gay little indigo bird, of a uniform metallic blue, with brown wings and tail; and the swamp robin with rusty patches upon his breast. The warblers, "who make our woods seem like one big flower-garden," are characterized by their small size, slender beaks, yellow coloring, and vigorous, irregular movements. First among them is the American redstart, with his black throat and fire bands on his wings, which in the sunlight are as brilliant as gems. The summer yellow-bird, whose favorite resting place is in the top of a birch tree; the Maryland yellow throat; the Nashville warbler; and the golden-crowned thrush, complete the list.

On Monday evening, May twenty-third, Mrs. Noble, a young Russian now living in Boston, addressed us on "The Need of Constitutional Reform in Russia." Her naive manner and Russian accent gave an added charm to the lecture. She said that after one had left school, one was apt to forget that Russia comprises one sixth of the globe, that in its length and breadth may be found all climates, and that it has a population of one hundred and six millions. The world-famous scientists, ar-

tists, musicians, poets, and novel writers of Russia show that it is not a semi barbarous country. The peasants, even, are anxious for education for their children and are themselves "improvable." But there is another side to the picture. Russia is a giant, but a giant chained. Taxes are outrageously heavy. Usurers often exact one hundred per cent. interest, sometimes eight hundred percent. Peasants so ground down may be seen wandering about the fields emaciated, starving. Another of the great evils to be met is drunkenness. The government is dependent upon the immense income from the sale of liquors, and therefore encourages its use. There are administrative difficulties which are particularly burdensome now in the time of famine. The right of petition is given to citizens simply, but if a petition is signed by two or more its signers form an illegal association; and on this account organized relief for the famine sufferers is impossible. There are also educational difficulties. Hundreds of schools and colleges were closed last year, because they were fitting students to be self-governing. The Russian is not an infidel, but profoundly religious. The Greek Church is "a piece of compulsory benevolence." It is not religion, but compulsory religion to which the Russian objects. The censorship of the press aids these religious, educational, and political restrictions. A change must come, and why wait until the people demand a revolution? The people do not trace the cause of their misfortunes to its true source. Those who do understand this problem should assist in working it out. It is natural that Americans should be interested in constitutional reforms in Russia. An association has been formed in this country to help forward such reforms. Its organ is "Free Russia." It purposes to aid the existing régime to higher aims, rather than to establish a new form of government. This change, like all great changes, comes slowly, but nevertheless it is surely coming. Mrs. Noble's view of the Russian question is much more hopeful than that of Mr. Stepniak's. At the close of her address, Mrs. Noble recited two sweet, sad poems, and a bright little one named "Kathleen" in English and in Russian.

MAGAZINES.

The Atlantic Monthly contains the first instalment of *The Emerson-Thoreau Correspondence*, contributed by F. B. Sanborn, and consisting of some twenty-five letters written at two periods—in 1843 when Thoreau assisted in editing the Dial, and in 1847-48 when Emerson was abroad and Thoreau resided with the Emerson family in Concord. The common impression that Thoreau was a reserved and unsympathetic person is not sustained by the tone of these letters, which are affectionate, familiar and even gossipy in places.

James Jay Greenough gives an outline of *The Present Requirements for Admission to Harvard College*, and compares the requirements of past years with those of the present time. An examination of the list of studies in which students must be prepared shows that it is a mistake to suppose Harvard lowered her standard in admitting students without Greek. The alternates — mathematics and natural science — demand minds specially suited to the scientific mode of study, minds which are usually less suited to language, and less apt to derive benefit from classical branches. The principle on which the examinations are conducted is a different one from that which once held ground. The old system aimed to find out whether the student had read those books in language and science which the college recommended. The new system aims to find out whether he can reason and use the knowledge gained from his reading. Cramming was the chief requisite for entrance to college under

the old system. It is the present tendency to demand a certain amount of ability of a candidate. Information was the watchword of the past. Intelligence is the watchword of the present.

Macmillan's Magazine gives a sketch of the Germany of today under the title *An Over-Administered Nation.* The Administration, comprising a number of officials ranking from the emperor to the police, is chiefly occupied making regulations. The rest of the fifty-three millions of people occupy themselves in obeying them. The Administration directs you in public parks to sit on this bench, but not on that: to stand on this one but not on that; to draw water here but not to drink it; to take your children here but not there; to take your dogs nowhere except in a *short* lease; it forbids you to smoke a cigar here, and directs you to smoke a closed pipe there; it warns cyclists to get off going down certain hills, and tells you to do so many things in a tramway that it is less fatiguing to walk than to ride in one. If one may paraphrase an immortal saying, it directs its officials to "Go and see what the people are doing, and tell them not to." The business controlled by the Administration may be generally described as everything but the army. This over-administration exaggerates the importance of all officials, relegates courtesy to the background, and common sense to oblivion. England is perhaps lacking in administration, but an Englishman travelling in Germany is hardly prepared to admit that his native country's state is the less gracious.

Walter Pater publishes *A Chapter on Plato* in the same review. Plato has seemed to many no less than the creator of philosophy, and his achievement may well seem an absolutely fresh thing in the morning of the mind's history. Yet it is hardly an exaggeration to say that in Plato, in spite of his wonderful savour of literary freshness, there is nothing absolutely new. The seemingly new is like the animal frame, every particle of which has already lived and died many times over. But the life-giving principle of cohesion is new, the *form* is new, and in philosophy form is everything, the mere matter is nothing. The theory of the Perpetual Flux was possible even for Heraclitus, and finds confirmation today in the language which changes on our very lips. Yet to Plato motion becomes the token of unreality in things, of falsity in our thoughts about them. He is an advocate of the immutable. Although the philosophy of motion declares change to be the irresistible law of our being, Plato persists that, through the power of true philosophy, change shall not be the law of our being. He means to shape men anew, but by a severely monotonous art. His ideal city will not be an art-less place; but its art shall be irresistible, immovable, and shall speak in the same tones year after year, age after age.

A. S. H.

EXCHANGES.

The University Magazine has a leading article on *The Position of Metaphysics in a Course of Scientific Philosophy* by Prof. E. A. Pace of the Catholic University, Washington. The connection between science and philosophy seems to be the chief subject of discussion, and the difficulty which the philosopher finds in constructing his ladder of Being with no scientific basis to stand on, is shown to be as great as the difficulty the scientist finds in persuading the world of the value of his facts without entering the field of abstraction and generalization. A middle ground whereon the two may meet and make use of one another is possible in Applied Metaphysics, which may be made a cross between science proper and metaphysics proper. Philosophers will here check their impulse to *a priori* reasoning, and scientists will learn that their labor will be

fruitful as it helps all seekers to a fuller knowledge of truth.

The *Advocate* contributes this poem:

CHRIST CHURCH.

Old wooden church, with tower square and low—
Play-ground and graveyard meeting at thy gate,—
Standing these hundred years inviolate,
Alone unmoved amid the world's swift flow;
Beneath thy shade the playful children grow,
And youths, in silent prayer, oft contemplate
The sober thoughts thy cross or chimes relate:
How God is real within this world of show,
All else hath changed since men first raised thy walls,
But through the fleeting years, unaltered still,
Its message to mankind thy presence gives:
The truth to minds of all who pass recalls
That time destroys all works of human skill,
And God, alone unchanged, eternal lives.

The Nassau Literary contains a prize essay on *Theocritus and Tennyson* which brings out resemblances between the two poets. The rest of the magazine is devoted to poetry and stories, and a little abuse of Walt Whitman. We are quite ready to believe that "*Leaves of Grass* has remained unread on the shelf" in the library of a man who "cannot find enough semblance of poetry in his writings to deceive the ordinary reader." However *The Nassau Literary* can write poetry, if it cannot find it in Whitman. The following is one of the best of its efforts:

THE LAST RAY.

The gleam of a dying sunset
Shone through the abbey old,
As the solemn tones of the organ,
'Neath the vaulted arches rolled.
It gilded the lofty chancel
And flooded the chapel dim,
While the nuns by the altar kneeling,
Chanted their vesper hymn.

The deep veiled nuns ceased singing,
As the last expiring ray
Gleamed full on the altar's motto
And silently faded away,
"Glory to God in the highest,"
And like an answer then,
Came the voice of the nuns from the cloister
"On earth good will toward men."

The Yale Literary mentions *Some Aspects of Modern Travel*, none of which are particularly new or striking. *The Genius of George Eliot* is also described in a manner more or less familiar. The magazine has a praiseworthy habit of condensing its contributions, and its articles are almost never long enough to be tiresome.

The Brown Magazine is excellent this month. *Goethe in his Relations to Science* is suggestive, and *The Newspaper as an Educator* is worth reading, while *Ideality as Prophet and Teacher* is a paper of merit. The verse, too, is up to its usual standard, as the following poem shows:

A THOUGHT FROM THE ORIENT.
(A Canzone.)

What sweeter end, the task of life performed,
Than that annihilation Buddha taught?
To live in health and action till a breath
Be cut abrupt as by a knife, and death,
From conscious living death, become transformed
To utter death,—a fall from life to nought.
No other heaven were worthy to be sought;
For deep inherent in the thought of life
There lurks a sense of strife.
And what were more discouraging and dreary
Than life, and life, and life through ages weary!

The Dartmouth Literary contains a judicious and dispassionate criticism on Walt Whitman. Among the many comments on the proposed establishment of a literary magazine at Wellesley we are particularly interested in *The Dartmouth's* remark that it is leap year, and a Wellesley *alumnus*(!) has proposed—to improve the paper. Among the poems of the paper we find the following:

THE SWEET SERENITY OF BOOKS.

A sheltered eddy in a river's course,
Where placid waters sleep through sunny hours,
While near at hand the rushing current, hoarse,
Is wasting in the rocks its waxing powers.
A quiet corner in a world of strife,
Hushed in the soft embrace of memories old,
When swelling music drowns the din of life,
A vital beauty stills the greed for gold.

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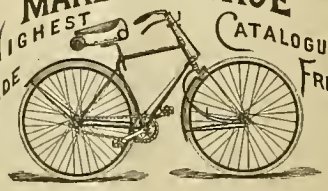

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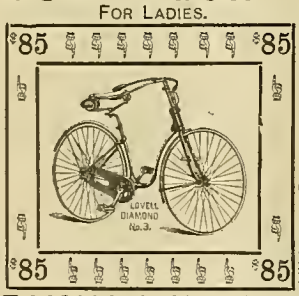

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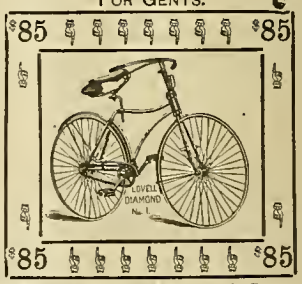

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